



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

August 15, 2002

S. 2598

Enhanced Protection of Our Cultural Heritage Act of 2002

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on July 31, 2002*

CBO estimates that implementing S. 2598 would not significantly affect the federal budget. The bill could affect direct spending and receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply, but we estimate that any such effects would total less than \$500,000 a year. S. 2598 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

S. 2598 would increase maximum fines and imprisonment terms for certain crimes against Indian tribes and for illegal trafficking under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. Based on information from the U.S. Sentencing Commission, CBO estimates that the bill's provisions probably would affect fewer than 50 cases each year. Because the new penalties would apply to a small number of offenders, we estimate that any increase in costs for prison operations would not be significant and would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Because those prosecuted and convicted under S. 2598 might be subject to increased criminal fines, the federal government might collect additional fines under the bill. Collections of such fines are recorded in the budget as governmental receipts (revenues), which are deposited in the Crime Victims Fund and later spent. CBO expects that any increased receipts and direct spending would be negligible because of the small number of cases involved.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Megan Carroll. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.